

Application Serial No. 09/837,102  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 58, line 1 to read as follows.

Cylindrical filter cartridges were obtained in the same manner using the same non-woven fabric strip and perforated cylinder as in Example 16, except that the winding numbers ( $W$ ) were set to 3.2778 (Example 17), 3.2917 (Example 18), 3.3847 (Example 19), 3.4118 (Example 20) and 3.1885 (Example 21), respectively. When the 2-fold values ( $2W$ ) of these winding numbers ( $W$ ) are approximated to fractions having denominators ( $M_2$ ) of two figures or less, the denominators are 9, 12, 13, 17 and 61, respectively. As these filter cartridges had larger  $M_2$ , the initial trapped particle diameters became smaller. Accordingly, the value of  $M_2$  correlates with the initial trapped particle diameter. When  $2W$  are approximated to fractions having denominators ( $M_3$ ) of three figures or less, the initial trapped particle diameter does not decrease in proportion to the denominator ( $M_3$ ). For example,  $M_3$  is larger in Example 20 than in Example 21, but the initial trapped particle diameter is smaller in Example 21. Thus, it proves that  $M_3$  in the equation (3) does not correlate with the filtering accuracy. The winding number  $W$  is smaller larger in Example 20 than in Example 21, but the initial trapped particle diameter is smaller in Example 21. Thus, it proves that the initial trapped particle diameter does not increase in proportion to the winding number  $W$ . The filter described in Example 21 had a relatively large pressure loss and a little poor liquid-passing property as compared with the other filters.